

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A computer-implemented method of displaying device port
2 information in a network topology display, comprising:
3 displaying a device node in a network topology display, said displayed device
4 node representing a connection device in a network, said connection device having one or
5 more connection ports for connecting to one or more devices in the network;

6 displaying one or more connection paths coupled to the displayed device node,
7 said connection paths representing connections to the one or more ports of the connection
8 device; and

9 selectively expanding the displayed device node in response to a user
10 selection, wherein the expanded node includes port information for each of the one or more
11 ports having a connection to another device in the network.

1 2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the displayed
2 device node represents a connection device selected from the group consisting of a switch, a
3 hub, and a router.

1 3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the port
2 information includes the port number.

1 4. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the port
2 information includes a port connection type indicator.

1 5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein selectively
2 expanding includes displaying a connection bar and displaying the port information proximal
3 the connection bar for each of the one or more ports having a connection.

1 6. The computer-implemented method of claim 5, wherein the displayed
2 port information for each port is displayed proximal the connection bar in a location
3 indicating the relative location of the corresponding connected device in the network
4 topology display.

1 7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the displayed
2 device node represents the connection device and one or more devices connected to the
3 connection device.

1 8. A computer-implemented method of displaying device port
2 information in a network topology display, comprising:

3 displaying a device node in a network topology display, said displayed device
4 node representing a connection device in a network, said connection device having one or
5 more connection ports for connecting to one or more devices in the network;

6 displaying one or more connection paths coupled to the displayed device node,
7 said connection paths representing actual network connections to the one or more ports of the
8 connection device; and

9 responsive to a user selection, displaying port information for each of the one
10 or more ports having an actual connection to another device in the network.

1 9. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the displayed
2 device node represents a connection device selected from the group consisting of a switch, a
3 hub, and a router.

1 10. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the displayed
2 port information includes the port number.

1 11. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the displayed
2 port information includes a port connection type indicator.

1 12. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein displaying
2 port information includes displaying a connection bar and displaying the port information
3 proximal the connection bar for each of the one or more ports having an actual connection.

1 13. The computer-implemented method of claim 12, wherein the displayed
2 port information for each port is displayed proximal the connection bar in a location
3 indicating the relative location of the corresponding connected device in the network
4 topology display.

1 14. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the user
2 selection is performed by the user using a computer mouse.

1 15. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the user
2 selection includes selecting the displayed device node with a user input device.

1 16. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the user
2 selection includes selecting a show ports option from a menu of options.

1 17. The computer-implemented method of claim 16, further comprising
2 displaying the menu of options in response to a user selection of the displayed device node.

1 18. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, further comprising
2 removing the displayed port information from the display in response to a user selection to
3 remove port information.

1 19. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein the displayed
2 device node represents the connection device and one or more devices connected to the
3 connection device.

1 20. A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a
2 computer system to selectively display device port information for a connection device in a
3 network topology display, by:

4 displaying a device node in a network topology display, said displayed device
5 node representing a connection device in a network, said connection device having one or
6 more connection ports for connecting to one or more devices in the network;

7 displaying one or more connection paths coupled to the displayed device node,
8 said connection paths representing actual network connections to the one or more ports of the
9 connection device; and

10 responsive to a user selection, displaying port information for each of the one
11 or more ports having an actual connection to another device in the network.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the connection
2 device is one of a switch, a hub and a router.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the network is a
2 storage area network (SAN).

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions
2 for displaying port information includes instructions for displaying a connection bar and
3 displaying the port information proximal the connection bar for each of the one or more ports
4 having an actual connection.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the instructions
2 for displaying the port information include instructions for displaying the port information for
3 each port proximal the connection bar in a location so as to indicate the relative location of
4 the corresponding connected device in the network topology display.